



# Space Object Identification by *In Situ* Measurements of Orbit Driven Waves

## SOIMOW Capability Briefing



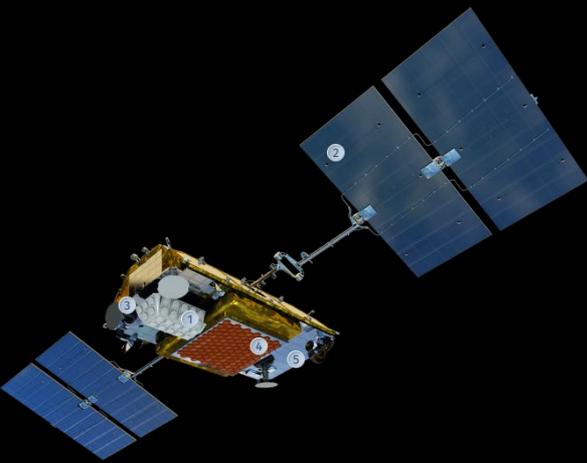
Paul Bernhardt, Geophysical Institute University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK

Lauchie Scott, DRDC Ottawa Research Centre, Ottawa, ON, CA

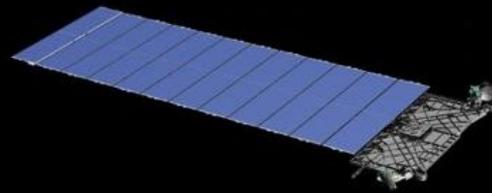
Andrew Howarth, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, CA

Mark Koepke, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

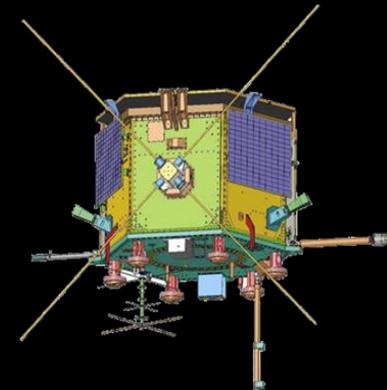
Joseph D. Huba, Syntek Technologies, Fairfax, VA



Iridium



Starlink



e-POP



# Space Object Identification by Measurements of Orbit Driven Waves (SOIMOW) for **Space Debris Identification and Tracking (SINTRA)**

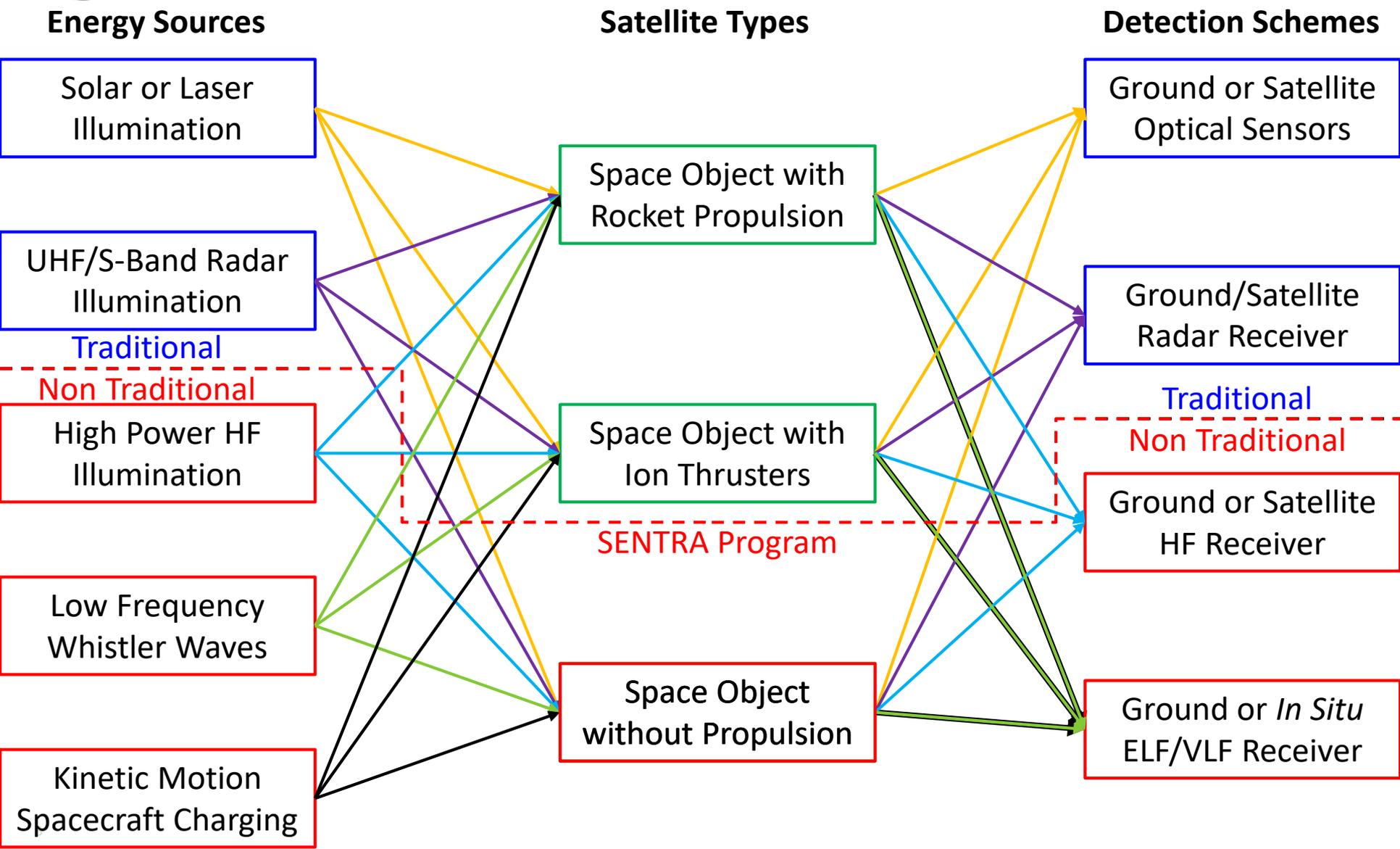


- SOIMOW Technology Overview
  - **Program Objectives:** Detection, Classification, Recognition, and Identification (DCRI) of Space Objects for Space Situational Awareness (SSA)
    - Track Space Debris Less Than 10 cm in Size
    - Develop Satellite Damage Mitigation by Collision Avoidance
    - Identify Unexpected Plasma Wave Emission Events in Space
    - Determine Effects of satellite shape, orbit, tumbling, and thrusters
  - **Tools for Detection** of Satellites and Space Debris by Plasma Waves
    - **Arecibo UHF Incoherent Scatter Radar** Data of Satellite Plasma Waves
    - **SWARM-E Satellite** with Electric and Magnetic Field Sensors in Low Earth Orbit
    - Illumination by **HAARP** High Power HF Transmitter for Excitation of EM Plasma Waves
    - **Experimentally Validated Theories** on Stimulated Scatter of Plasma Waves
    - **Mission Planning Tools** for Space Object Tests and Technique Evaluation
  - Examples of **SOIMOW Successes** for Space Object Detection
    - Close Conjunctions of Inert Space Debris and Satellites with Electric Field Sensors
    - Detection of High Power HF Excited Emissions for Electrostatic Waves in Space
    - Spacecraft Detection by Passage Through VLF Transmitter Ray Paths
    - Transient Excitation of Magnetosonic Solitons and Whistlers by On Orbit Events
    - Plasma Wave Turbulence in Long-Distance Neutral Clouds from Satellites
  - Conclusions



# Detection of Plasma Waves from Orbiting Satellites and Space Debris

## Satellite Sensor Operations Chart for SOIMOW



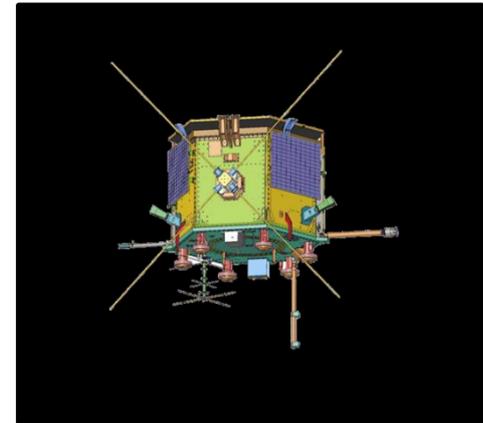
HAARP High Power HF Illuminator



Active Environmental Research Array



SWARM-E Plasma Inst.



PFISR UHF Space Weather Radar



UAF Cameras and LIDARs



Poker Flat Rocket Range



Past

Present

**Concept:** Orbiting Debris Launches Plasma Waves for Detection

**Theory and Simulation:** Plasma Wave Disturbance Generation

**Concept Testing:** Space Sensor Observations of Satellite Encounters

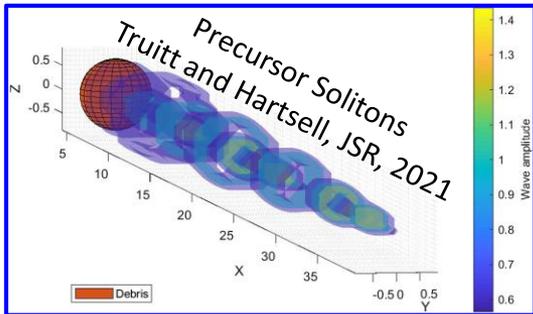
**Focused Modeling:** 3-D Fluid and Particle Codes with Electromagnetics

**Dedicated Space Hardware:** Microsats with Wave and Particle Sensors

**Operational Space System:** Sensor Interpretations and Machine Learned Signatures

Present

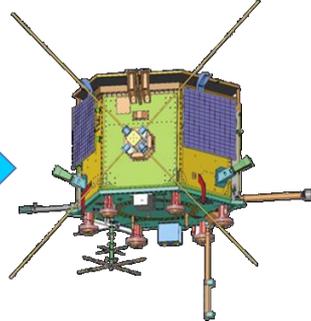
Future



Plasma Wave Predictions

Past

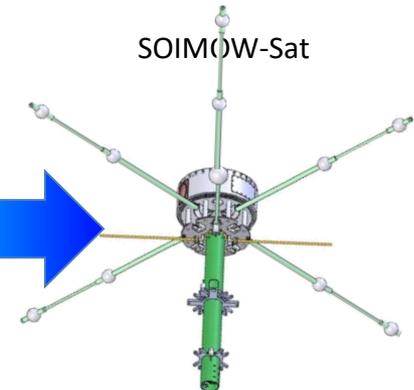
SWARM-E RRI and MGF



In Situ Field Measurements

Present

SOIMOW-Sat



Dedicated Sensors

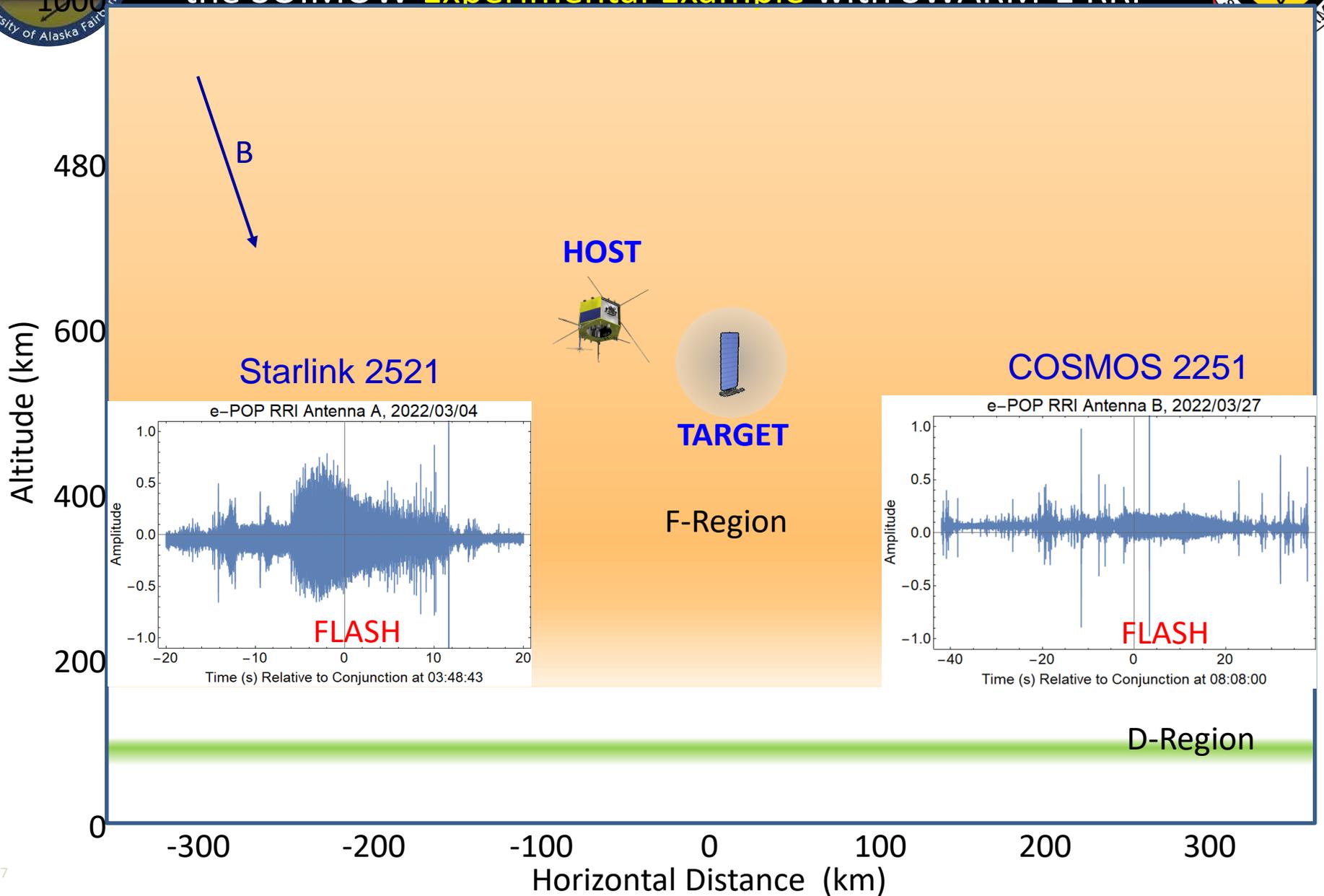
Future

# Key Features of Low and Medium Frequency Plasma Waves for Space Debris Identification and Tracking (SINTRA)



Mode	Alias	Frequency Range	Speed	Group Direction	Polarization
<b>Fast Magnetosonic</b>	Compressional Alfvén Wave	Low Frequency $0 < \omega < \Omega_i$ or $\omega_{LH}$	Fast	Isotropic	$\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}_0 = 0$
<b>Alfvén</b>	Shear Alfvén Wave	Low Frequency $0 < \omega < \Omega_i$	Fast	Along $\mathbf{B}_0$	$\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}_0 = 0$
<b>Slow Magnetosonic</b>	Magnetized Ion Acoustic Wave	Low Frequency $0 < \omega < \Omega_i \cos \theta$	Slow	Along $\mathbf{B}_0$	$\mathbf{E} \parallel \mathbf{B}_0$
<b>Whistler</b>	Electron Whistler, Helicon Wave	Medium Frequency $\Omega_i < \omega < \Omega_e \cos \theta$	Fast	$19.5^\circ$ of $\mathbf{B}_0$	$\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}_0 = 0$
<b>Electrostatic Ion Cyclotron</b>	First Ion Cyclotron	Low Frequency $\omega^2 = \Omega_i^2$	Zero	Isotropic	$\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}_0 = 0$
<b>Ion Cyclotron</b>	Second Ion Cyclotron	Low Frequency $\omega^2 = \Omega_i^2 \cos^2 \theta$	Zero	Along $\mathbf{B}_0$	$\mathbf{E} \parallel \mathbf{B}_0$
<b>Ion Acoustic</b>	Unmagnetized Ion Sound Waves	Medium Frequency $\Omega_i < \omega < \Omega_e \cos \theta$	Slow	Isotropic	$\mathbf{E} \parallel \mathbf{B}_0$
<b>Lower Hybrid</b>	Finite- $k_z$ Lower Hybrid Waves	Low Frequency Fixed $\omega_{LH}^2 = \frac{\Omega_i \Omega_e + \Omega_e^2 \cot^2 \theta}{1 + \Omega_e^2 / \omega_{pe}^2}$	Slow	Perpendicular to Phase Velocity	$\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}_0 = 0$

# Satellite Detection by EM Wave Generation During the SOIMOW **Experimental Example** with SWARM-E RRI





# Detection of Plasma Waves from Orbiting Satellites and Space Debris

**End-to-End Resources** at the Geophysical Institute/UAF and U/Calgary



<b>Program Asset</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Data Product</b>
<b>Alaska Satellite-Tracking Ground Station</b>	ASF	UAF	<b>Realtime Tracking</b>	Synthetic Aperture Radar Satellite Tracking
<b>Satellite Orbits and Target Conjunction Predictions</b>	SOAP	Aerospace	<b>Mission Planning</b>	Satellite and Space Debris Trajectories
<b>Magnetic Field Vectors and Satellite Velocity Geometries</b>	IGRF+	UAF	<b>Mission Planning</b>	Favorable Geometries for SINTRA Tests
<b>SWARM-E Satellite with Plasma Wave Receivers</b>	e-POP RRI/MGF	Univ. of Calgary	<b>Space Data Acquisition</b>	Electric and Magnetic Fields from SWARM-E
<b>High Power HF Transmitter: Electrostatic Wave Generator</b>	HAARP	UAF	<b>Target Illumination</b>	Stimulated Scatter from Space Targets
<b>Ground HF, VLF, and ELF Receivers</b>	AERA	UAF and DOD	<b>Emission Detection</b>	Plasma Wave Fields from Spacecraft
<b>Multimode Plasma Wave Propagation and Generation</b>	WIPL-D+	WIPL-D and UAF	<b>Observation Analysis</b>	Identification of Host Wave
<b>Space Plasma Laboratory</b>	SPLE	WVU	<b>Experiment</b>	Scaled Plasma Physics
<b>Ionospheric Specification Simulation and Tools</b>	SAMI-3	JD Huba	<b>Background Ionosphere</b>	Ambient Plasma Wave Environment



# Plasma Waves from Orbiting Satellites and Space Debris

## Summary of SOIMOW Team Capabilities



- Satellite Motion Produces Waves and Wakes
  - Orbital Plasma Waves Provide a New Means of Space Object Detection
  - Ionospheric Waves from Spacecraft Impact the Space Weather Environment
- Factors Affecting Plasma Wave Disturbances from Space Objects
  - Trajectory Relative to Magnetic Field Direction
  - Size, Orientation, and Tumbling of Spacecraft or Debris
  - Propulsion System Operation Injecting Neutral or Ion Beams
- Space Object Detection Systems
  - Close Encounters between Hypersonic Target and Sensors on Host Satellite
  - Target Flight Through High Power HF Beams Near Ionospheric Critical Regions
  - Passage of Target Between Ground VLF Transmitter and Whistler Receivers
- Current SOIMOW Activities
  - Continuing Conjunctions of HOST SWARM-E Sensors with Targets of Opportunity
  - Scheduled Flights of High-Inclination, Low-Altitude Targets Through the HAARP Beam
  - Target Flights Over Ground VLF Transmitters with Satellite and Ground Sensor Support
  - Mission Planning to Execute On-Going Experiments
  - Theory, Simulation and Laboratory Experiments to Explain Observations
  - Identification of Benefits and Hazards for Multiple Spacecraft and Debris in LEO